

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Report on East German Opinion

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This is UNEVALUATED Information 25X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Reports of recent weeks indicate that Soviet manoeuvres have affected East German opinion. The feeling is growing that the international situation is becoming more flexible, that both East and West are seeking a détente in the face of the danger of an atomic war, and that the chances are somewhat increased that the Russians will allow reunification of Germany on acceptable terms. The position of the East Germans makes them, no doubt, willing to stretch the concept of acceptability somewhat, and they would probably find acceptable a Soviet offer of reunification providing for military neutrality, limited rearmament, and a guarantee by the Soviet Union and the United States. They would probably blame the West for the failure of reunification if the West should reject such an offer.
2. The East Germans, while remaining skeptical of Soviet motives, are interested in any new Soviet policies toward Germany.

Comment: Although the East Germans may be willing to see Germany reunited on the basis stated, it is believed that they are highly interested in the fate of the territory east of the Oder-Neisse line, and would not be likely to accept unification under terms which permanently fixed the Oder and Neisse as the border.

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